



State of Utah

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TECHNICAL FIELD VISIT

DATE: October 20, 1999
DOGM STAFF: Robert Davidson, Paul Baker, and Pete Hess
ATTENDANTS: Dave Shaver, Mike Glassen, and Gary Gray, West Ridge Resources; Mark Greenhalgh, Nielson Construction.
RE: Experimental Practices' Test Plot, West Ridge Mine, West Ridge Resources, Inc., ACT/007/041, Carbon County, Utah

Purpose:

- Reconstruct the Experimental Practice Test Plot to meet design criteria as specified in the MRP (Cross Reference Field Reports - see May 18, 1999 and June 4, 1999 Field Reports).

Background:

- In order to evaluate the effects of the geotextile and fill over the existing in-place topsoil resources, a test plot study area will be established in the upper right fork northeast of the topsoil stockpile. The purpose for the test plots is to evaluate the Experimental Practice reclamation plan proposed for the mine yard area. After the test plot area is constructed, the plots will remain intact for five years to simulate the operation phase of the mine yard. Following the five year period, reclamation will be performed on the test plot area to actually implement and test the final reclamation plan in comparison to conventional reclamation techniques. Appendix 2-6 contains a complete discussion of the Experimental Practice test plot plan.
- Installation of the Experimental Practices' Test Plot Area - The Test Plot area was originally installed in the Spring of 1999 during initial site construction, but was not constructed according to the Mine Reclamation Plan. **In summary**, the two main issues resulting from the departure from the plan with initial installation included (see May 18, 1999 Field Report):
 - Lack of compaction of native undisturbed soils over time before reclamation due to the lack of sufficient fill depth.
 - Reclamation of the test plot area does not include reclamation of the ephemeral drainage.

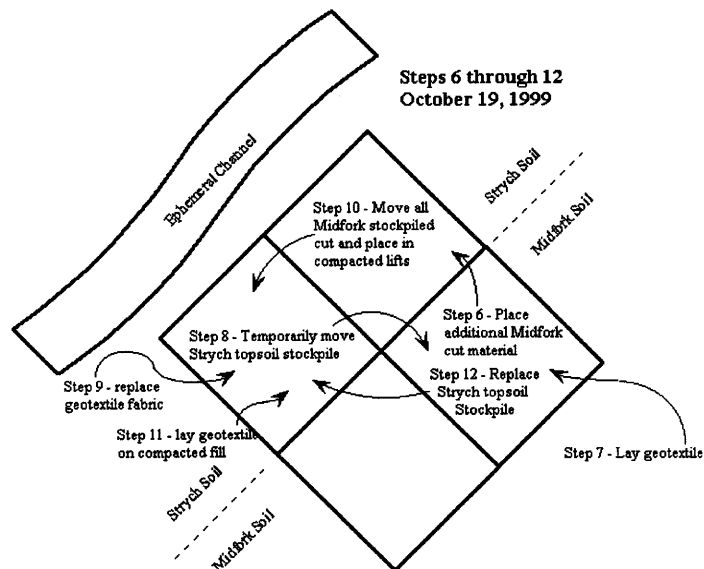
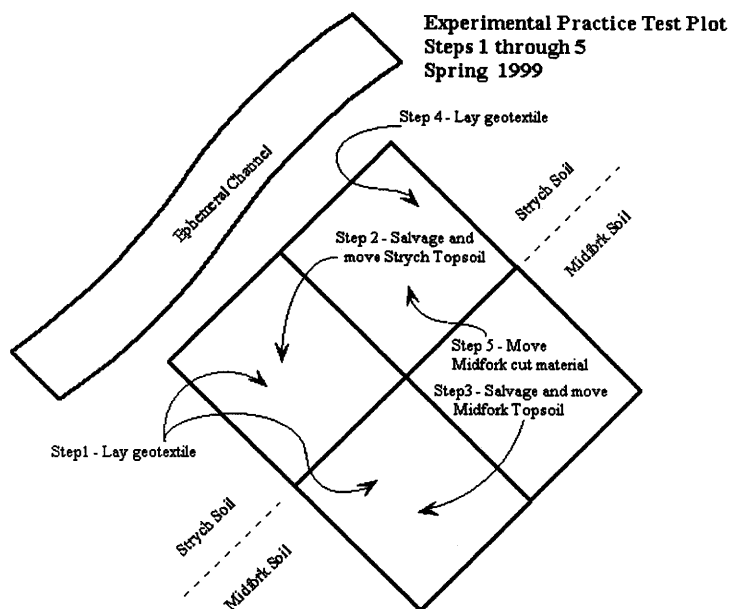
The installed test plots would be modified as mutually agreed with all departures and changes amended in the Mine Reclamation Plan (see June 4, 1999 Field Report).

Observations & Recommendations:

Experimental Practice Test Plot was modified according to plan:

- All work was done by a track hoe. The test plot site was accessed by walking the track hoe over the main topsoil stockpile and then up the undisturbed right fork channel.
- Additional Midfork fill material was salvaged from the Midfork cut area and combined with the initial Midfork cut stockpile. The total volume of stockpiled Midfork fill will cover the Strych geotextile area with 6 feet fill in standard compacted lifts.
- Geotextile was temporarily placed on the Midfork cut area.
- The Strych topsoil stockpiled was temporarily moved to the Midfork cut area and placed on the geotextile fabric.

4. Geotextile fabric was replaced over the un-salvaged Strych soil surface and was extended up the adjacent undisturbed, east Midfork slope.
3. The salvaged Midfork cut material was placed in standard compacted lifts to 6 feet.
4. Geotextile was then placed over the compacted fill.
5. The temporarily displaced Strych topsoil stockpile was placed on the geotextile over the compacted fill.
6. All surfaces were roughened and prepared for seeding. All silt fences were repaired and/or replaced. The plots will be seeded with the interim seed mix and mulched using certified weed-free straw.



Signature: _____

Robert Davidson, Senior Reclamation Specialist

on October 21, 1999

cc: Mary Ann Wright
Bob Postle, OSM

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